

## Message Text

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45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 PM-09 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 ACDA-19 IO-12 AID-20 GAC-01

DPW-01 EUR-25 RSR-01 INRE-00 /139 W

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P R 111120 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0010

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 6147

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR 1, APRIL 11, 1973

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM AMCONSUL DANANG BEING REPEATED

QUOTE

DANANG 383

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJ: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR I, X PLUS 73, APRIL 11, 1973

### 1. MILITARY SITUATION:

INCIDENTS DROPPED TO THE LOWEST LEVEL WITHIN THE PAST YEAR, BEING LIMITED TO 8 ATTACKS BY FIRE ( ABF) INVOLVING A TOTAL OF 149 ROUNDS OF MORTAR FIRE ONLY. FIVE OF THESE ABF INVOLVING 118 ROUNDS OCCURRED IN THE FIRST DIVISION AO, WEST OF HUE. REGIONAL CASUALTIES WERE: FRIENDLY 1 KIA( ANOTHER RECORD LOW), 31 WIA (14 IN BOOBY TRAP INCIDENTS); ENEMY: 10 KIA. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED A TOTAL OF 2,022 ROUNDS ; 1,339 NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, 683 SOUTH.

### 2. ICCS ACTIVITIES:

A. ON MORNIFG OF APRIL 11, ICCS REGION I HEADQUARTERS RECEIVED A BRIEF RADIO MESSAGE FROM ICCS TEAM INVESTIGATING THE APRIL 7  
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HELICOPTER INCIDENT IN WESTERN QUANG TRI. MESSAGE STATED TEAM HAD VISITED LANDING SITE OF SERVICEABLE HELICOPTER #115 AND FOUND IT TO BE " APPROXIMATELY WHERE PRG SAID IT WOULD BE." ( SEPTTEL)

B. POLOFF IN HUE REPORTS THAT ALL DELEGATIONS OF ICCS REGION I ARE SHAKEN AND ANGERED BY THE DOWNING OF TWO ICCS HELICOPTERS AND THE LOSS OF FOUR MEMBERS OF THE REGIONAL TEAM . ICCS MEMBERS ARE EXTREMELY BITTER ABOUT THE MANNER IN WHICH THE PRG HANDLED THE INCIDENT, ALLOWING TWO DAYS TO PASS BEFORE COFIRMING THE IDENTITIES OF THE DEAD AND SURVIVORS. CANADIAN EXTAFF OFFICER JEFFREY CHARLEBOIS NOTED THAT PRG THREATS TO THE SURVIVORS AND THE ATTEMPT TO BLACKMAIL THE ICCS GENERALS INTO SIGNING A STATEMENT " MAKES ONE WONDER WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE THE PRG REALLY ARE." CHARLEBOIS WAS PLEASED THAT THE INCIDENT HAD NOT CHANGED CANADA' S POSITION ON PARTICIPATION IN THE ICCS. DESPITE HIS PERSONAL RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE ICCS, CHARLEBOIS FELT THAT CANADIAN WITHDRAWAL AT THIS TIME WOULD BE VIEWED AS COWARDICE.

C. MEMBERS OF THE ICCS REGION II TEAM IN HOI AN DEPLORE THE ICCS HELICOPTER INCIDENT BUT DO NOT APPEAR UNDULY CONCERNED. HUNGARIAN CAPTAIN CSOKOS COMMENTED TO QUANG NAM POLOFF:" WE HAD TO ANTICIPATE INCIDENTS LIKE THIS. WHEN WE CAME WE WERE TOLD THE WAR IS NOT YET OVER DESPITE THE CEASEFIRE; OUR JOB IS TO HELP REDUCE THE LEVEL."

3. JMC ACTIVITIES:

ON APRIL 10, THE RVN ELEMENT OF THE JMC SUBMITTED TO ICCS REGION I A REQUEST FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF AN ALLEGED CEASEFIRE VIOLATION AT HOANG HAU OBSERVATION POST ( FIREBASE HELEN) IN WESTERN THUA THIEN. THE RVN CHARGES THAT ON APRIL 6 AND 7 THE COMMUNISTS SHELLED AND ATTACKED HOANG HAU CAUSING HEAVY RVN CASUALTIES. ( SEPTTEL FOLLOWS.)

4. GVN ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES:

THE CHIEF OF THE GVN RAILROAD AGENCY IN MR I REPORTS THAT AS OF APRIL 10, HE HAS A TOTAL OF TWO ROUND TRIP TRAINS BETWEEN DANANG AND HUE EACH DAY ( SEE DANANG 342). HE IS HAULING APPROXIMATELY 500 PASSENGERS AND 100 TONS OF CARGO A DAY. EACH ONE- WAY TRIP TAKES APPROXIMATELY FOUR HOURS. PLANS ARE ALREADY AFOOT TO REPAIR THE TRACKS IN ORDER TO EXTEND OPERATIONS NORTH OF HUE AND SOUTH OF DANANG. ( CONGEN COMMENT: THE OPENING OF THE RAILROAD FOR EVEN SUCH LIMITED SERVICE HAS GIVEN A PSYCHOLOGICAL CONFIDENTIAL

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BOOST TO THE GVN IN THE EYES OF THE PEOPLE OF MR I, SIMILAR TO

THE OPENING OF ROUTE I TO TRAFFIC FROM SAIGON. END COMMENT.)  
THOMSEN UNQUOTE  
BUNKER

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
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